GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2404
ANSWERED ON:07.08.2000
DEATH OF TIGERS
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incident of untimely death of animals especially endangered species like Royal Bengal Tigers and White Tigers are on the increase in the reserve forest area as well as Zoo in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such incidents came to the notice of the Government during 1998-99 and 1999-2000 till date, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure the safety of the endangered species?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)
(a)&(b) Details regarding deaths of tigers in different States from 1998-99 and 1999-2000 in zoos and sanctuaries in the country are as follows:-

TIGER DEATHS IN ZOOS

S.No	State	1998-99	1999-2000	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3	7	10
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2	0	2
3.	Assam	0	1	1
4.	Bihar	1	3	4
5.	Gujarat	5	4	9
6.	Karnataka	6	1	7
7	Madhya Pradesh	2	3	5
8.	Maharashtra	6	4	10
9.	Orissa	11	11	22
10.	Rajasthan	0	2	2
11.	Tamil Nadu	2	0	2

TIGER DEAHTS IN SANCTUARIES

S.No	State	1998-99	1999-2000	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2	Not available	2

2.	Assam	1	Not available	1
3.	Karnataka	5	Not available	5
4.	Madhya Pradesh	11	18	29
5.	Maharashtra	6	2	8
6.	Manipur	1	Not available	1
7	Rajasthan	1	1	2
8.	Tamil Nadu	1	1	2
9.	Uttar Pradesh	6	4	10
10.	West Bengal	1	1	2

Information on tiger deaths from other States are not available.

(a) The State Government and Zoo Administrationhas been requested to reduce the overcrowding of animals, upgrade housing, provide better hygiene, sanitation and veterinary health care in the zoos which will help in low mortalities.

Number of other steps have been taken by Governmentof India for the safety of tigers and other endangered species in the country which may be summerised as follows:-

1. Setting up of a National Coordination Committee to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife with enforcement agencies like Customs, Revenue Intelligence, Border Security Force, Coastguards, State Police etc.

2. Special Coordination Committee with Secretary (E&F), Special Secretary(Home), Director, CBI and representatives of Central Board of Excise and Customs has been created to ensure better coordination in the efforts to curb smuggling in wildlife products.

3. Central assistance is provided to State Governmentsto strengthen the protection infrastructure including arms squads, vehicles, communication network and coordination between Park Managers.

4. Central Government has taken necessary action to increase allocations to State Governments and to ensure expeditious flow of funds at ground level for strengthening of enforcement infrastructure.

5. Supporting programme for institutions and NGOs in exploring wildlife produce trade routes and developing a forensic identification reference manual.
6. Funds are being provided to State Governments for ecodevelopment of the areas around National Parks to reduce biotic pressure thereon and to develop a better relationship with the people

7 Launching of public awareness programme to involve NGOs and others for supporting the Government in its efforts towards wildlife conservation.